ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention concerns a method which can be carried out with a sensor device, for monitoring a laser machining operation to be performed on a work piece, in which for quality assurance with a local-resolution receiver assembly, a given field of observation is selected in the region of the interaction zone between laser beam and work piece, in the radiation coming from selected field observation is detected with a radiation-sensitive receiver which delivers an electrical signal corresponding to the detected radiation, in which the electrical signal filtered in a signal processing circuit in order to detect rapid and/or short, fault-related changes in intensity of the detected radiation, and in which the filtered electrical signal for the detection of faults during the machining operation.